

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus to support a stent during the process of applying a coating substance to a stent:
 - 5 a support fixture to support a stent during the application of a coating substance;
 - a processing system to modify the coating substance applied to the stent supported by the support fixture; and
 - a coupling element configured to connect one side of the support fixture to the processing system to allow the support fixture to be rotated with respect to the processing system.
- 10 2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein another side of the support fixture is capable of being connected to a motor for rotating the support fixture.
3. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the process system is a pressure system to apply a pressure to the support fixture.
- 15 4. The apparatus of Claim 1, additionally including a conduit connecting the coupling element to the processing system.
5. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the support fixture includes a component extending into a bore of the stent, wherein the component has an outer surface in contact with an inner surface of the stent.
- 20 6. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the support fixture includes a component extending into a bore of the stent, wherein the component has an outer surface that does not make contact with an inner surface of the stent.

7. An apparatus to support a stent during the process of applying a coating substance to a stent:

a coupler;

a support fixture, connected to one side of the coupler, to support a stent during

5 the application of a coating substance to the stent; and

a conduit connected to another side of the coupler, wherein the coupler allows the support fixture to be rotated without the conduit being rotated.

8. The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein the conduit is configured to be connect to a processing system.

10 9. The apparatus of Claim 8, wherein the processing system is a pressure system.